

Spiders of Sinai (Egypt), a list of species (Arachnida: Araneida)

Hisham K. El-Hennawy
41, El-Manteqa El-Rabia St., Heliopolis,
Cairo 11341, Egypt

Abstract

A list of spiders of Sinai is presented including 29 families, 58 genera, and 60 identified species (in addition to many unidentified genera and species). The records of spiders belong to 46 localities within 16 regions in Sinai. Code numbers of regions are used in a table of families and species and on a map of Sinai. *Micaria* sp., *Minosia simeonica* Levy, 1995 (Gnaphosidae), *Cheiracanthium canariense* Wunderlich, 1987, *Cheiracanthium mildei* L.Koch, 1864 (Miturgidae), *Ebo* sp. (Philodromidae), and *Xysticus tristrami* (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872) (Thomisidae) are here recorded for the first time from Egypt.

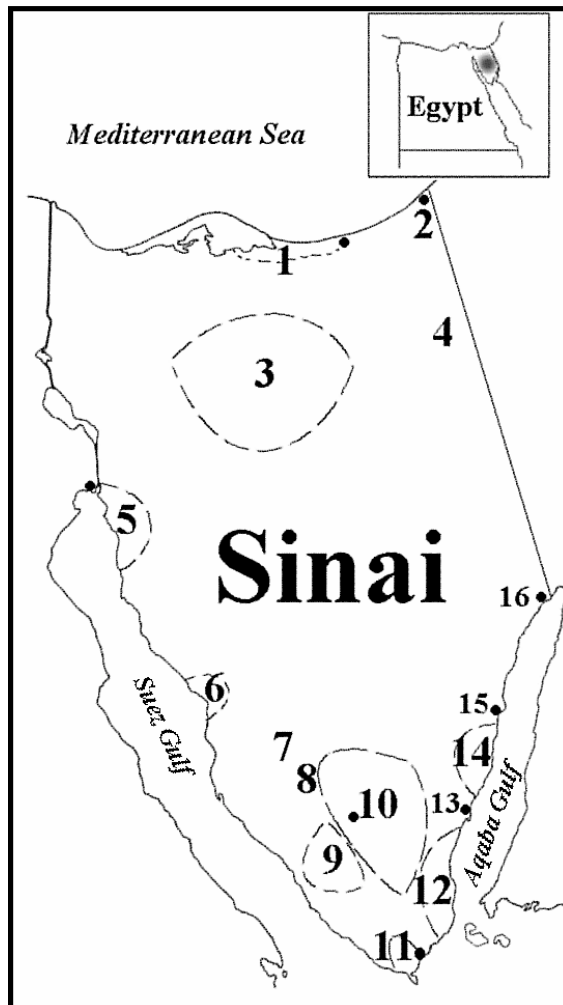
Introduction

Sinai, the northeastern corner of Egypt, is a unique situation between Africa and Asia. The study of its fauna is necessary to understand the zoogeographic relationships between Egypt's eastern desert and the Levant countries. The first work devoted to the study of spiders of Sinai was that of Octavius Pickard-Cambridge (1870).

The following work is a list of spider species collected by the author from three protected areas by Aqaba gulf (Ras Mohammed, Nabq and Abu Galoum) in 1994-1995 and El-Zaranik protectorate at the Mediterranean coast in 2000-2001; in addition to specimens collected from diverse localities in north and south Sinai, specially from the surroundings and vicinity of St. Catherine region. The old records, from literature, are also included in the list. Most of the consulted references are listed at the end of this work except those mentioned before in my checklist of 1990.

The localities (46 localities within 16 regions), in Sinai, are listed below after a code number used in: 1. the table which includes the recorded species, arranged in families and 2. the map of Sinai.

The recorded spiders of Sinai are here classified within 29 families, 58 genera, and 60 identified species (in addition to many unidentified genera and species). The taxa marked by an asterisk (*) are here recorded for the first time from Egypt.



Localities (collecting sites) in Sinai:

North Sinai

1. El-Zaranik protectorate (15 scattered sites); El-Arish
2. Rafah

Mid Sinai

3. Bir Gifgafa; Mitla pass; Vatiya pass; Qadesh Barnea' ?
4. 'Ain Jodairat

Suez Gulf

5. 'Ayun Musa; Pharaoh's Baths; Wadi Gharandel; Ras Sedr
6. 'En Higiya (NE of Abu Zneima); Abu Rudeis; southwestern Sinai

Western South Sinai

7. Wadi Feiran; Wadi Sahab
8. Gebel Serbal (Ain El-Louza)

9. Wadi Esla (5 sites)

Wadi Esla;
El-Tarfa (at start of Wadi Esla);
Sail El-No'amani (at middle of Wadi Esla);
Sahl El-Qaa' (at end of Wadi Esla);
Wadi e-'Tamaovi, NW Esla

10. St. Catherine area (15 sites)

El-Mafareq;
St. Catherine Monastery;
mountains around St. Catherine

Monastery (Sinai mountains); near General Parker Memorial;
Wadi Telah; Wadi El-Tal'aa; Wadi El-Rahba; Wadi El-Seba'iya;
Mount Sinai; Jebel Musa; Convent gardens, back of Mount Sinai;
Genneh (Jebel); Wadi El-Arbaieen; Wadi Nasb (or Wadi Nasib); Wadi Ara'am

Aqaba Gulf

11. Ras Mohammed protectorate; Sharm El-Sheikh (and Wadi Yah'med, north of it)
12. Nabq protectorate, Wadi Kid, Wadi Madsus ?
13. Dahab
14. Abu Galoum protectorate
15. Nuweiba
16. Taba region (South of Elat)

Acknowledgments

I wish to thank my friends and colleagues Drs Hassan H. Fadl, Mahmoud S. Abd El-Dayem, Magdi S. El-Hawagry, Gamal Orabi, Mostafa R. Sharaf (of Ain Shams, Cairo and Suez Canal Universities) who brought me several spider specimens from different localities of Sinai and helped me much during my trips to protected areas of Sinai.

Family and Species	Localities															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Agelenidae																
<i>Agelena lepida</i>	X						X			X		X		X		
<i>Tegenaria</i> sp.										X						
Araneidae																
<i>Agalenatea redii</i>										X						
<i>Argiope lobata</i>	X									X		X				
<i>Argiope</i> sp.	X													X		
<i>Cyclosa</i> ? sp.	X															
<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>												X		X		
? sp.	X	X								X	X					
Dictynidae																
? sp.												X				
Dysderidae																
<i>Dysdera</i> sp.										X						
Eresidae																
<i>Stegodyphus dufouri</i>					X									X		
<i>Stegodyphus lineatus</i>	X						X			X		X		X		
Filistatidae																
? sp.				X						X		X		X		
Gnaphosidae																
<i>Micaria</i> sp.*										X	X	X				
<i>Minosia simeonica</i> *										X						
<i>Pterotricha conspersa</i>										X						
<i>Pterotricha dalmasi</i>										X						
<i>Pterotricha lesserti</i>	X				X											
<i>Pterotricha</i> sp.		X					X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
<i>Setaphis subtilis</i>							X			X						
<i>Synaphosus gracillimus</i>						X		X		X						
<i>Synaphosus minimus</i>											X		X			
<i>Zelotes listeri</i>										X						
<i>Zelotes</i> sp.	X	X					X		X	X		X		X		
? sp.	X			X						X						
Hersiliidae																
<i>Hersiliola</i> sp.										X						
Linyphiidae ?																
? sp.	X									X				X		
Liocranidae																
<i>Mesiotelus tenuissimus</i>										X						
? sp.	X															
Lycosidae																
<i>Arctosa cinerea</i>					X					X						
<i>Evippa praelongipes</i>										X						
<i>Lycosa tarentula</i>							X									
? sp.	X			X			X		X	X		X		X		
Miturgidae																
<i>Cheiracanthium canariense</i> ?*	X															

<i>Cheiracanthium mildei*</i>										X						
<i>Cheiracanthium pelasgicum</i>		X														
<i>Cheiracanthium</i> sp.	X								X	X	X	X		X		
Nemesiidae ?																
? sp.	X															
Oecobiidae																
<i>Oecobius</i> sp.											X			X		
<i>Uroctea</i> sp.										X	X	X		X		
Oonopidae ?																
? sp.	X															
Oxyopidae																
<i>Oxyopes heterophthalmus</i>										X						
<i>Oxyopes</i> sp.									X	X		X				
<i>Peucetia arabica</i>										X	X	X		X		
<i>Peucetia</i> sp.									X							
Philodromidae																
<i>Ebo</i> sp.*	X															
<i>Philodromus sinaiticus</i>						X						X	X			
<i>Philodromus</i> sp.									X	X	X	X		X		
<i>Thanatus albescens</i>										X						
<i>Thanatus</i> sp.	X	X					X			X	X	X				
Pholcidae																
<i>Holocnemus pluchei</i>										X		X				
? sp.	X									X	X					
Salticidae																
<i>Aelurillus catherinae</i>										X						
<i>Aelurillus sinaicus</i>			X													
<i>Chalcoscirtus catherinae</i>										X						X
<i>Euophrys catherinae</i>										X		X				
<i>Menemerus animatus</i>	X															
<i>Mogrus sinaicus</i>										X						
<i>Mogrus</i> sp.	X										X	X		X		
<i>Myrmarachne</i> sp.												X				
<i>Philaeus chrysops</i>										X						
<i>Plexippoides flavescens</i>										X						
<i>Plexippus paykulli</i>	X					X								X		
<i>Rafalus christophori</i>										X						
<i>Rafalus feliksi</i>									X							
<i>Rafalus</i> sp.											X					
<i>Thyene imperialis</i>											X					
? sp.	X					X		X	X							
Scytodidae																
<i>Scytodes</i> sp.	X									X		X				
Segestriidae																
<i>Segestria florentina</i>					X											
Sicariidae																
<i>Loxosceles</i> sp.				X					X	X				X		
Sparassidae																
<i>Eusparassus walckenaeri</i>					X	X				X		X				
? sp.	X									X						

Tetragnathidae <i>Tetragnatha</i> sp. ? sp.	X											X				
Theridiidae <i>Enoplognatha deserta</i> <i>Latrodectus pallidus</i> <i>Latrodectus tredecimguttatus</i> <i>Latrodectus</i> sp.? <i>Steatoda ephippiata</i> <i>Steatoda latifasciata</i> <i>Steatoda paykulliana</i> <i>Theridion musivum</i> ? sp.	X	X		X			X			X	X				X	
Thomisidae <i>Heriaeus buffoni</i> <i>Ozyptila judaea</i> <i>Ozyptila</i> sp. <i>Synema diana</i> <i>Thomisus bidentatus</i> <i>Thomisus onustus</i> <i>Thomisus</i> sp. <i>Xysticus ferus</i> <i>Xysticus lalandei</i> <i>Xysticus tristrami</i> * <i>Xysticus</i> sp.									X		X	X				
	X								X	X	X	X	X		X	
		X					X			X						
	X						X			X	X	X	X		X	
				X												
Uloboridae <i>Uloborus</i> sp.	X															
Zodariidae <i>Palaestina eremica</i> <i>Ranops expers</i> <i>Trygetus riyadhensis</i> <i>Trygetus sexoculatus</i> <i>Zodarion nitidum</i> <i>Zodarion</i> sp. ? sp.										X	X					
	X									X	X	X			X	
	X			X			X			X	X					

Alphabetical list of identified species with author and date:

Aelurillus catherinae Prószyński, 2000
Aelurillus sinaicus Prószyński, 2000
Agelenatea redii (Scopoli, 1763)
Agelena lepida O.P.-Cambridge, 1876
Arctosa cinerea (Fabricius, 1776)
Argiope lobata (Pallas, 1772)
Chalcoscirtus catherinae Prószyński, 2000
Cheiracanthium canariense Wunderlich, 1987 *
Cheiracanthium mildei L.Koch, 1864 *

Cheiracanthium pelasgicum (C.L.Koch, 1837)
Cyrtophora citricola (Forskål, 1775)
Enoplognatha deserta Levy & Amitai, 1981
Euophrys catherinae Prószyński, 2000
Eusparassus walckenaeri (Audouin, 1825)
Evippa praelongipes (O.P.-Cambridge, 1870)
Heriaeus buffoni (Audouin, 1825)
Holocnemus pluchei (Scopoli, 1763)
Latrodectus pallidus O.P.-Cambridge, 1872
Latrodectus tredecimguttatus (Rossi, 1790)

- Lycosa tarentula* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Menemerus animatus (O.P.-Cambridge, 1876)
Mesiotelus tenuissimus (L.Koch, 1866)
Minosia simeonica Levy, 1995
Mogrus sinaicus Prószyński, 2000
Oxyopes heterophthalmus (Latreille, 1804)
Ozyptila judaea Levy, 1975
Palaestina eremica Levy, 1992
Peucetia arabica Simon, 1882
Philaeus chrysops (Poda, 1761)
Philodromus sinaiticus Levy, 1977
Plexippoides flavescens (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872)
Plexippus paykulli (Audouin, 1825)
Pterotricha conspersa (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872)
Pterotricha dalmasi Fage, 1929
Pterotricha lesserti Dalmas, 1921
Rafalus christophori Prószyński, 1999
Rafalus feliksi Prószyński, 1999
Ranops expers (O.P.-Cambridge, 1876)
Segestria florentina (Rossi, 1790)
Setaphis subtilis (Simon, 1897)
Steatoda ephippiata (Thorell, 1875)
Steatoda latifasciata (Simon, 1873)
Steatoda paykulliana (Walckenaer, 1806)
Stegodyphus dufouri (Audouin, 1825)
Stegodyphus lineatus (Latreille, 1817)
Synaphosus gracillimus (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872)
Synaphosus minimus (Caporiacco, 1936)
Synema diana (Audouin, 1825)
Thanatus albescens (O.P.-Cambridge, 1885)
Theridion musivum Simon, 1873
Thomisus bidentatus Kulczyński, 1901
Thomisus onustus Walckenaer, 1806
Thyene imperialis (Rossi, 1846)
Trygetus riyadhensis Ono & Jocqué, 1986
Trygetus sexoculatus (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872)
Xysticus ferox O.P.-Cambridge, 1876
Xysticus lalandei (Audouin, 1825)
Xysticus tristrami (O.P.-Cambridge, 1872)*
Zelotes listeri (Audouin, 1825)
Zodarion nitidum (Savigny, 1825)

References

- Cambridge, O.P. 1870. Notes on a collection of Arachnida made by J. K. Lord, Esq., in the peninsula of Sinai and on the African borders of the Red Sea. *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 1870: 818-823.
- El-Hennawy, H.K. 1990. Annotated checklist of Egyptian spider species (Arachnida: Araneae). *Serket* 1(4-5): 1-49.
- Levy, G. 1989. The family of huntsman spiders in Israel with annotations on species of the Middle East (Araneae: Sparassidae). *J. Zool., Lond.* 217: 127-176.
- Levy, G. 1992. The spider genera *Palaestina*, *Trygetus*, *Zodarion* and *Ranops* (Araneae, Zodariidae) in Israel with annotations on species of the Middle East. *Israel J. Zool.* 38: 67-110.
- Levy, G. 1995. Revision of the spider subfamily Gnaphosinae in Israel (Araneae: Gnaphosidae). *J. nat. Hist.* 29: 919-981.
- Levy, G. 1998. Araneae: Theridiidae. In *Fauna Palaestina, Arachnida III*. Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Jerusalem.
- Prószyński, J. 1999. Description of *Rafalus* gen. n. (Aranei: Salticidae), with special reference to the Near East fauna. *Arthropoda Selecta* 8(2): 89-101.
- Prószyński, J. 2000. On mostly new species of Salticidae (Aranei) from Levant. *Arthropoda Selecta* 8(4): 231-262.
